# Charlottesville Grounds Prepared for Initial Outdoor Practice of Nationals

# LAMBETH FIELD IS **READY FOR FIRST OUTDOOR PRACTICE**

Sun Makes First Appearance At Charlottesville In Days.

#### YOUNGSTERS SIT UP AT **GROOM'S DELIVERY**

Walter Johnson Due To Arrive in South Next Sun-

#### By "SENATOR."

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, March 7 .- Under the influence of brooms and shovels wielded by a dozen stalwart sons of Ham, Lambeth Field is today ready for the first outdoor practice of the season of 1912 for the Nationals. To add joy to the countenances of all. the sun, a weak, sickly chap, showed his face this morning and Manager Griffith declared, that if the day became warm enough later on, the squad might have their first workout on turf today. However, it seems almost a certainty that the players will be initiated into the mysteries of outdoor work to-

"While this gymnasium work is good of its kind," says Manager Griffth, 1'd rather have the boys outdoors, and the moment it looks good enough, out they go. There's a chance of their going out this afternoon. The field needs only a couple of hours of sun to dry enough for our purposes."

Sir Robert Groom, the elongated, attenuated, toothpick twirler, who reported last night with a suitcase, trunk check and a sore toe, was given his first workout today. Owing to his extremely wide delivery, Groom has caused some consternation among the youngsters in the gymnasium. Bobby takes up enough room for three ordinary pitchers, and Johnson, Musser, and Allen had to rest while he was going through the motions.

down until Sunday with the others," says Groom. "He came from St. Louis with me and has some work

and have to be well rubbed by Mike the collection without a sore spot and Martin before they start their work.

"Next week well he on the dia." "Next week we'll be on the diamond," says Griffith, 'and the infielders will have more opportunit. Morgan and Cunningham are developing their wind and their eyes any-

Ray Morgan, the wigard infielder from Baltimo', means to haush up in his stick forts. These five were kept at it half an work in the hopes of beating out all candidates for that farthest corner of the infield this summer, and his entire Ray Morgan, one of the brightest effort is to trim his batting lamps.

line of twirlers, left and right-handers.
who served them up to him, and he had to be ordered away from the willow by

or load dragged into the assembly room.
While he dozed into the assembly room. Manager Griffith before he would take his place on the floor for some fielding

#### Batting Bee For Morgan. Yesterday's workout was but a bat-

ting bee for Morgan. He stood up to ting bee for Morgan. He stood up to All the pitchers were worked out for an imaginary plate and mashed wicked an hour each, stress being laid on their liners, devilish, dancing counders and motion in getting the ball away. Such neat, but lazy bunts back at the steaming pitchers. His loud laugh could be heard with every crack of the bat, and he hit them back so fast at the pitch-ers and hit them in so many directions that he drove all the mere spectators of the floor in few of their lives off the floor in fear of their lives. "If I'm to make this team, I've just their work is marked."

get to hit better than the other exectdates," says Morgan. "That's why I'm starting early to get my patting eye in condition. That's why I'm here this to the pitchers. This is expected to week instead of waiting until next week. improve I know that hitters make good in the big league and that practice makes per- opposing flingers. tect. The combination is what I'm try-

'I'm not very big, but there have been many good little men in baseball. That's what I want to be, a good little man. I think I can take care of the fielding end of the game, all right, it's only the hitting end that is worrying me.

# Ready To Play.

Morgan tips the beam at 153 pounds, and is about in playing condition. In-deed, he is likely to put on a little weight by the time the season opens. The will have the "Alabama Beauty" ready to take his turn on the mound He is tending strictly to business and is one of the most energetic lads in

erweather gymnasium. It serves to attract dozens of students, curious to learn it; cause It draws smiles from with such short wind as I am this Clark Calvert Griffith and grimaces of pain from "Massa John" Henry, et al., Youngsters striving for regular places

Why this creaking noise! And where from? From the youngsters, as aforesaid, and from their bones and joints. Such a tacket has never been heard in this sleepy little hamlet since a lot of fellows in blue were pegging away at a lot more fellows in butternut in the neighboring bills.

Every little movement has a shooting pain all its own," says Sir Tomasso on the big fellow to win a lot of game Hughes, lengthy twirler and lonely veteran of the bunch. Sometimes, in the night, I wake up and find my ear the only part of me without a pain or an

'My legs never semed such a big

## Sore All Over.

# All Hail the Coming of Old Doc Hope, An Important Character in Baseball Dope



the painful stage and the rookies have need of all the backbone in their make-up. From lively dancing creatures, full of animal spirits and 'pep,' they have inary pitchers, and Johnson, Musser, and Allen had to rest while he was good through the motions.

\*Walter Johnson will not come own until Sunday with the others," asys Groom. "He came from St. asys Groom. "He came from St. douls with me and has some work or a dentist in Washington. He

Louis with me and has some work for a dentist in Washington. Ite figures he will be all ready by the end of the week. He looks pretty good right now."

The rookies are all anxious to get outdoors, several developing stiff legs from running on the board track in the gymnasium. Ray Morgan and Alva Williams are particularly stiff and have to be well rubbed by Mike the collection without a sore spot and the form and bright many sore spot and the collection without a sore spot and the figures at them and giving them teasing bunts to further pull and stretch their sorely worked muscles and tendons. The formance of the preliminary training has vanished now. It is just plain hard work and the boys realize it.

Four hours of such strenuous endeavors was the program yesterday and continued today, four hours of leaping and running and stopping and catching and running and stopping and catching and the collection without a sore spot and

## Griff In Charge.

Griffith, in uniform, is actively in to work. Here in the gym there is charge of the exercises in Fayerweather hardly room for the pitchers, but gymnasium. Yesterday he kept hitting hard ones right back at the string of rookies until they were ready to cry quits. With the pitchers done, the of active young backstops and the infielders came in for their extra

spirits in Griffith Hall, was so Today he started in from the jump to hit back merry bounders at the wide lors barber chair, which Dixle Walk-line of twirlers loft and clark had been bad dragged into the assembly room. a haircut when he awoke. It was just in time to save his life. Then he promptly went upstairs to bed. It was his first quiet evening since the camp was formed. Usually he is the ring-leader in all the alleged singing that goes on in Griffith Hall.

coaching they have never had before, almost every one of them being faulty in his delivery. Griffith means to teach his twirlers all the mechanics of their

## Gets His First Chance.

Cunningham got his first chance at bat yesterday, being ordered to bunt Bill's batting lamps so that he may once more become a terror to opposing illingers. The Schenectady youth was a bit rusty and was kept jumping out of the way of "bean balls." but he managed to keep his pitchers

Pretty busy. This is great practice for the bat-

Dixie Walker's extra weight is slow to come off, but Mike Martin is con-fident that he will remove it before ready to take his turn on the mound when the bell rings. He is rubbing Dixle energetically every day in the A dreadful creaking sound is echoing daily from the classic halls of Faytreeather symposium it such as the contains will be increased.

Luck is a facing and in the answer.

Youngsters striving for regular places under the big tent.

Why this creaking noise.' And where from? From the youngsters, as afore-

"Walter Johnson tells me needs only two weeks to condition himself," says Griffith, "and so when he gets here he'll be allowed to do just as little as he wants. I want him right when the bell rings, for I'm counting on the hig fellow to win a lot of games

part of me before in all my life." grins ported in perfect shape, and he says

Jerry Akers. "From running on the that a week or two outdoors should put track upstairs in that confounded gym

I can hardly walk."

Sore All Over

The Nationals cat together at three tables in a students boarding house to Griffith Hall, and they will but he has decided that it is no game to grame for a gentleman with only two legs and next door to Griffith Hall, and they will be when he was the terror of the opposing flingers at the colse of the season.

Sore All Over flingers at the colse of the season.

"Wow, I'm sore all over," says Al "Catton" Johnson, the recruit from Williams, reaching to borrow Tom Vandalia. Ill., has wone the letter writing championship of the camp. By actual count he can write five letters Hughes' package of "scraps." "If this pain means I'm getting in shape, I'll be glad when I reach that goal. It's proving a long, hard road, I'm telling you." Preliminary practice has now reached pain means I'm getting the campionship of the camp. By actual count he cam write five letters of the Nationals are assured of first-class treatment for their arms and shoulders. Mike Martin is a thoroughly skylarking downtown. Everybody will be called at 7 o'clock in the morning and

# BINGLES AND BUNTS

By Grantland Rice.

#### The Diamond Maxims of Methusaleh. (Handed down to his grandson, Noah, the mogul of the Ark.

"There came into the city a pitcher, one with great; speed and a wondrous curve, known as the Pretzel but he that getteth thy goat is master of thy destiny, Shoot. But his control was an abomination and his sojourn was brief. For it is not, my son, what you have but what you can get over the plate that tells the story.

"Many are called, but few hit 300; many leave, but

'The loser shall say: 'The umpire robbeth us and we | breaths; he shall curse thee and cheer thee within two have suffered many injuries;' but the winner playeth the game to a finish, knowing that Luck follows Pluck acts. So forgive him and forget his manners. Bear to the end of the trail."

## The Break of the Game.

You'll hear a lot, within the next few weeks or months, of the run of hard luck against this ball club or another, of the tough break which has pursued this club or that and of the unkempt fortune which has balldom is an interesting one, but Harry Wolverton has Cobb. come nearer sizing up the true situation than any we have yet heard speak.

"In 154 games," says Wolverton, "the break of luck is about even with leaders and tailenders. But the difference is this: one club, against a run of tough luck will break and lose heart, will quit fighting and hustling, and will let the play grow listless. When the tide turns, this club is in no shape to turn with it, or to take advantage of the change.

"Another club will fight all the harder against this bad turn, will stick it out, and hustle at even greater speed. The break will not only turn far sooner with this club, but when the turn comes, it is then ready to jump forward and take full advantage of the shift. This latter club may be below the average in playing strength, but its nerve will put it well above many a team of better playing quality but with weaker heart."

## Case of the Athletics.

Mack's team last spring got away to one of the rawest starts in history. For week after week the club ting eye." said Cunningham, after the work was done for the day. "By the time we get outside, we should be able to see them pretty well. This is just what I need." est starts in history. For week after week the club was unable to win, either at home or abroad. If Connie or his men had lost heart or become disorganized, even this championship machine would soon have blown even this championship machine would soon have blown

the first division to a finish and lost out to a certainty. But with Collins and Barry out and with others in poor physical shape, the squad stuck to it-put on full steam against an adverse head wind and was soon back in front sailing before the gale.

Luck is a big part of the game, but the matter of

The Colossus League. "Who was it," asked a teacher in a Georgia school, 'of whom it was written that he 'doth bestride this narrow world like a Colossus?""

"He that kicketh thy dog around is an annoyance,

"When the Fan calleth thee a wonder, heed not his

even unto the second explanation.

with him for the gate receipts."

And the immediate reply from four-fifths of the struck it down. This matter of good and bad luck in class thundered back this response: "Tyrus Raymond

## Concerning the Atletes.

They pull away from the plate at times, However stout-hearted or able; But this is a trick they rarely show When the plate is on the table.

No athlete in either circuit will receive more attention this spring than Marty O'Toole. The \$22,500 glare around his dome died down a trifle in the off-year, but the furore is on again now that Marty is back in uniform with the missile poised again in his strong right paw. It's only a matter of his condition. If the expensive young Pirate is able to disperse the kink which curbed his effectiveness last fall, you can play him for one of the stars of the season. He had enough upon display in the few games that he worked to show about wher he belonged. The only people who need worry about O'Toole are those facing him with the bludgeon.

Some one has quoted Connie Mack as predicting that the Giants and Athletics would fight it out again next The only prediction Counje ever made about his club was that it would finish in the first division, and this inside tip came late in September when the Champs were eighty or ninety points out beyond the field. Confacing and fighting the indigo blend is 98 per cent of nie's nly rebuttal in the way of prophecy is the full box score or the standing of the clubs.

want the boys to

"I want the boys to get a lot of work," says Manager Griffith, "and I'll see that they don't waste any time while here at Charlottesville. As soon as they are in shape for short practice skir-mishes, we'll choose sides and begin. It serves to keep up the interest of the

when the bell rings, for I'm counting on the big fellow to win a lot of games right at the opening of the campaign."

Bill Cunningham, the chunky second baseman, is downright in carnest about preparing himself for the season. By doing light work all winter he has reported in perfect shape, and he save that a week.

he kitchen and the tables with extra orders of the same thing No man hinks he has had enough while there any more to be seen.

Sir Tomaso Hughes, the veteran twirler, is in good condition, and re-ports his lame digit healing rapidly. is any more to be seen. ---

The rookies are all anxiously awaiting the arrival of G. Erminic Schaefer, having heard so much about him from the veterans. "Dutch" is certain to be players far better than just general given a right royal welcome when he work."

"Private John" Allen is a serious sort of a chap, Seldom is a word heard from him, for he is always attending strictly to business. He bids fair, too, by the way, to earn the championship of the camp at pitch.

williams began to practice bashetrall,

Hughes says the lad is conducting a correspondence school.

of the game while with Mike Murphy, the lights go out at 10:30 sharps, by my order."

Washington hurlers should be in good "Walter Johnson will be allowed to

shape this season, anyway, if never be-fore. get into shape slowly, says Griffith. "I shall not use him at all until the season opens, unless he feels good enough to go in against the New York Glants in Washington. But this will be

Jerry Akers weighs 189 pounds today, and says that he may, if he works is head off, take off as much as five

Joe Engel has registered the complaint of the squad. He objects to being called "Baby Doll."

Mike Martin, peerless trainer, is set ting a high record already as a story-teller. He keeps the youngsters in roars about all the time. Mique is some imi-tator, too, by the way, and his imila-tion of a chicken got one of the colored servants going until he was scout-ing around looking for him.

"I have been reading so much about 

# **BOB THAYER'S** Sporting Gossip

#### "Every Knock Is a Boost."

Old players showing up.

If any fan thinks that Walter cohnson is not in good shape let him drop around the Dewey and take a look at the big pitcher. Johnson has been working out doors all winter and if he words, nor yet extend thy chest; for tomorrow he shall ever was in better condition it cannot call thee that for less than which men have been put to be neticed by his appearance,

N. G. D C. preliminaries off.

"He shall praise thee and revile thee within two Those preliminary races at the Center innings. But the froth is on his lips and the frenzy in his eyes, and he knoweth not, poor fool, whereof he classy affairs. The average number of town.

There's the Bug Club in this camp."

There's the Bug Club in this camp." sport on Friday evening when the finals are conducted at the same place.

Hard luck for Griffith.

swimmer, whose work in this country ington yesterday looking over the sights. The visitor is on the way to Chicago, where he will compete in the meet under the auspices of Chicago

Athletic Association After which ha For which, judging from the widespread publicity attached to the name in question, four-fifths of the class could hardly be censured or blamed.

meet under the auspices of Unicago Athletic Association. After which he will return east to work out in the University of Pennsylvania gymnasium to found rocking back and forth in a chair in the fair corner of the assembly smaller in preparation for the trials for the Olympic games. Under the rules of the carnival Kahanamoku is eligible to represent America.

Walter Johnson is right.

That list of events for the Maryland Agricultural College meet on May 11, should attract some of the best athletes in the District. There are so many races on the program that Almost any contestant can be accommodated in his favorite distance.

Excitement at wrestling.

Weeks ago it was suggested in these Weeks ago it was suggested in these other fellows are doing, but I don't columns that it would be an excellent make any noise about it." move for the amateur athletes of Washington to form a city association for their own protection, the union making it possible to present a

have been booked and Manager Maloney is now corresponding with several strong elevens in the East to fill the remaining dates. In addition to the attractive schedule, the outlook for a strong team at Brookland is especially

Griffith refuses to laugh.

Speaking for a Washingtonian the Pittsburgh Post says: "Keliher kicked in early from Wash-

ngton, and he brought a whole barrel for the vacant position at the initial sack. He has been taking good care of himself and has little weight to take off. Mickey is bristling with confidence and if Rebel Keen heats him out he will

# TOM HUGHES TAKES CAKE FOR TELLING BASEBALL STORIES

O'Neill Needed Sunglasses to Find Patsy Donovan's Fly.

#### ATTEMPTS TO SEND PIANO THROUGH MAIL

Members of Nationals Organize Bug Club for Noisy Candidates.

By "SENATOR."

CHARLOTTESVILE, Va., March 7 .-At Griffith Hall many baseball stories are heard, some good and some better. It remained for Sir Tomasso Hughes, the veteran twirler, to "pull" the one best bet of them all. Griffith had just concluded one about Virgii Garvin, the old White Sox pitchen, and the listeners had become laughers when Tom Hughes

"That was funny, all right; but did you ever hear about 'Tip' O'Nelli's great play on the old Washington grounds? That was in the old war days of the American League, and we had "Tip" American League, and we had "Tip" O'Nelli, now in Milwaukee, playing conter field. Patsy Donovan, last year's manager of the Boston Red Sox, was managing our club, when it happened. "Our pitcher, I don't remember who it was in the box, was getting lambasted in every inning. Sam Crawford came up in the seventh inning with the cushions crowded, and just literally pickled one to the fence in center field. We all saw the ball make a rush for the fence, high the ball make a rush for the fence, high over O'Neill's head, and then the next minute we saw 'Tip' bounding over the grass toward second base, as if to get a

Texas leaguer.

"Patsy Donovar, just sat there speechless. O'Neill came running all the way
across the diamond and straight to the
bench. Almost out of breath, he came
up to Donovan and panted:

"Where's my sunglasses?"

#### Would Send It Home.

"Dorf" Alnsmith, sitting down to drum upon the piano, discovered six 1-cent postage stamps lying on the keyboard. Plastering the row up against the instrument, he shouted: "There-guess I'll send this plane right home."

#### The Bug Club.

Already the Nationals have organized Bug Club, membership being based largely on the amount of loud noise made by the candidate. Ainsmith has been chosen president of the organizabeen chosen president of the organiza-tion, which is composed of Engel, the Washington youth; Morgan, from Bal-timo'; Walker, the "Alabama beauty;" Becker, the Capital City southpaw, and Akers, the Dubuque flinger and exact semblance of Jim Jeffries. The Bug Club gathers each evening around the plano and proceeds to hold an executive session. President Ain-smith makes enough noise for the whole club, but Engel and Walker are there

club, but Engel and Walker are there Morgan can generally be neard in the din. Whenever a pitch game is on the members of this club may be heard in

about a dozen and most of the finishes said Williams, the other evening.

"Every club has its bugs and there's our collection Since then then they have been christened the Bug Club.

## Seven Studious Sisters.

In direct opposition to the National's Bu-Duke Kahanamoku, the Hawahan Club there is that other organization, the "Seven Studious Sisters." Cunningham has caused a sensation, was in Wash- is president of this organization, which

> chair in the far corner of the assembly room, smiling quietly at the opposition around the plano. Cashion pulls away on a choice cigar and grius, "Cotton Johnson is busily writing to the folks at home. "Private John" Allen plays solitaire. Musser buries himself in a history of the "Nineteenth Century," brought down by Manager Griffith to lean his cigars against while playing bridge. Boehling stands first on one foot and then on the other, keeping time with the session of the Bug Club. returning one grin for each outburst from Ainsmith. John Henry beetles that massive brow of his over the intracacles of bridge whist.
> "I don't play cards and I don't sing."
> explains "Mild Bill" Cunningham. "so
> what's the sense of just making a
> noise? I sit here and enjoy what the

# Cunningham Confident.

"I don't say that I'll be nicked for the regular team this season." says stronger front in making demands for Cunningham, "but I do say that I'm in consideration before the South Atlantic better shape than I have been in a

Association. The matter has received the candid consideration of most of the clubs here, and now it is said that the indications are that such a federation will become a reality.

Allan Lard at Pinehurst.

If the start may be taken as a criterion, the Catholic University will have its most pretentuous football schedule next fall. Aiready several good games have been booked and Managar Malon.

big show.

If I can only seach the playing form I had in the fall of 1910, I'm willing to make a fight with every man on the team for the place at second base. I'm at least so far as the feeling counts."

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